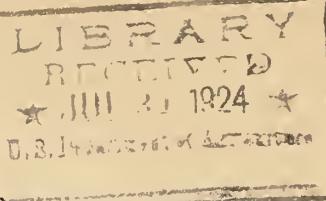


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BLISTER RUST NEWS SERVICE.



Clip Sheet No. 14.

(Not to be released before July 31, 1924.)

(To be used by editors as fill-ins)

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure". That is what a pine owner said when he saw the havoc being wrought in his neighbor's pines by the white pine blister rust. "If the removal of currants and gooseberries within 900 feet of my pines will prevent the pines from being rusted, then I'll get my bushes out before the damage has been done." The expert assured the pine owner that this was the case and that proof of the statement could be found in every locality where the removal of currants and gooseberries from pine land had been accomplished in time.

Good Forest Practice demands that the land best suited for forests be used for that purpose. If the land is bare at present and not reseeding naturally, or if it is growing up to weed trees of little commercial value, then it becomes necessary to replant the area with a desirable species. In the Northeastern and Lake States white pine is one of the best trees to plant for quick and substantial profits. Small pine transplants can be secured from nurseries or wild seedlings can be obtained from openings in the woods where they are growing too thick. Successful plantations may be made with either of these classes of stock. However, considerable care must be exercised in digging wild seedlings as the roots are easily damaged by breaking or drying out after which the seedling may die or its growth be stunted for several years.

YOUNG PINES SPRING UP WHERE BLISTER RUST HAS BEEN CONTROLLED.

At Kittery Point, Maine, where the blister rust has been present since about 1898, the currants and gooseberries which were the direct cause of the spread of the rust to the pine were removed in 1917. A study of this area made lately shows how successful these early protective measures were.

Young white pines which have sprung up on this diseased area between 1917 and 1921, where all of these nurse plants were removed, have without exception been free from the blister rust. At the end of 1921, 242 young seedlings were counted per acre. This should be sufficient proof of the effectiveness of the control methods which have been worked out by the U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

